

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-23 remain in the application. Claims 1, 11, and 16 have been amended.
2. Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended by the Examiner during the telephone conversation of 24 February 2005.
3. Claims 1-5, 8, 11-13, and 16-19 are not anticipated by Mills, Jr. (US 6,665,529, "Mills").
 - 3.1 Mills fails to disclose or suggest storing data on an IC card for connecting at least one access point to a functional connection with the fixed network part, and connecting the IC card in response to a need to connect the access point to the fixed network part, where the IC card is inserted in the access point, as recited by claim 1.

In the Final and Advisory Actions of 18 November 2004 and 8 February 2005, respectively, the Examiner equates the data on an IC card of the present claims with the subscriber identity (IMSI) on the SIM card of Mills, and the access point of the present claims with the base station 12 of Mills. The Examiner states that in Mills when the mobile phone wants to make a call, the base station reads the IMSI to identify the phone to the base station and connects to the rest of the network to transmit the IMSI. The Examiner states that this is the same as coupling the IC card into a functional connection with the access point in response to a need to connect the access point to the fixed network part.

Applicants have amended the independent claims to further clarify the invention and to specify that the IC card is inserted in the access point. Applicants submit that while Mills states that the mobile station (MS 20) registers with the MSC/VLR 26 using a temporary identity or an IMSI (col. 6, lines 23-25), that this is not the equivalent of connecting an IC card that has been inserted in the access point. It simply means that the IMSI is conveyed to the MSC/VLR. There is nothing in Mills that discloses or suggests connecting an IC card that has been inserted in the access point.

3.2 Mills also fails to disclose or suggest that an access point is arranged to connect an IC card inserted in the access point, onto which is stored data for connecting at least one access point to a functional connection with the fixed network part, as recited by claim 11.

Using the same rationale stated above, the Examiner finds that data stored on the SIM card ultimately causes the base station to connect with the rest of the fixed network.

Applicants have amended claim 11 to further clarify that the IC card is inserted in the access point, the access point is arranged to connect the IC card, and that data is stored on the IC card for connecting at least one access point to a functional connection with the fixed network.

Mills states that the mobile station (MS 20) registers with the MSC/VLR 26 using a temporary identity or an IMSI (col. 6, lines 23-25). In contrast, Applicants' claim describes the IC card as "onto which is stored data for connecting at least one access point to a functional connection with the

fixed network part." There is nothing in Mills related to using data on the IC card for connecting an access point to a fixed network, specifically when the IC card is inserted in the access point.

3.3 Mills further fails to disclose or suggest an access point that comprises card means for connecting an IC card inserted in the access point and for reading data on the IC card, and that the access point comprises control means and transceiver means for setting up a functional connection to required resources of a fixed network part on the basis of the data stored on the IC card, as recited by claim 16.

In the discussion of this claim the Examiner equates the same elements of Mills and the present invention as before and states that: when the mobile phone initiates a call the mobile phone will be coupled into a functional connection with the base station; since the mobile station comprises the SIM card, the SIM card is also functionally coupled with the base station; and that the base station will read the IMSI stored on the SIM card to identify the mobile phone.

Similar to the other independent claims, Applicants have amended claim 16 to clarify that the IC card is inserted in the access point. Applicants fail to find any disclosure related to this feature and also fail to find any disclosure in Mills on how initiating a call leads to a functional connection between an IC card and a base station. The cited portions of Mills simply state that the mobile station registers using the mobile subscriber identity. Mills clearly does not state or suggest that

base station will read the IMSI stored on the SIM card, only that the mobile station registers using the IMSI.

4. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, and 20-23 are patentable over the combination of Mills in view of Widegren et al. (US 6,374,112, "Widegren").

Widegren fails to disclose or suggest the features of claims 1, 11, and 16 missing from Mills as argued above. Thus, the combination of Mills and Widegren does not disclose or suggest all the features of the independent claims.

Therefore, the combination of Mills and Widegren does not render claims 6, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, and 20-23 unpatentable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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14 March 2005
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